

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to indicate that the present application is a continuation-in-part of International Application No. PCT/EP98/08582, filed December 21, 1998.

Respectfully submitted,



James V. Costigan
Registration No. 25,669

HEDMAN, GIBSON & COSTIGAN, P.C.
1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036
(212) 302-8989

09593123 061200